(c) All the remaining villages are planned to provided with telecom facility progressively by August, 2003 subject to availability of resources.

Corporation in Indian Postal Service

†2999. SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to corporatise the Indian Postal Service;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the outline for same is likely to be prepared by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SANJAY PASWAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Non-availability of telephone facilities

3000. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Uttar Pradesh, Orissa, Jharkhand, Uttaranchal, Chhatisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and the North Eastern Region where telephone facilities are not available;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of villages in these States where telephone facilities were provided during the year 2001-02; and

(d) the effective measures being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (d) The number of villages

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.